

Great Falls Park

9200 Old Dominion Drive

McLean, Virginia

Directions may be found [here](#) .



Located 15 miles from the Nation's Capital, [Great Falls Park](#) is a popular site with local residents and tourists who visit the Washington area. Many people consider the Great Falls of the Potomac to be the most spectacular natural landmark in the metropolitan area.

Great Falls Park is an 800 acre park that is known for two things – its scenic beauty at the head of the Potomac River fall line and the historic Patowmack Canal. It has 15 miles of [trails](#) , 5 of which are multiple use trails for mountain biking and horseback riding.

The falls consist of cascading rapids and several 20 foot waterfalls, with a total 76 foot drop in elevation over a distance of less than a mile. The Potomac River narrows from nearly 1000 feet, just above the falls, to between 60 and 100 feet wide as it rushes through Mather Gorge, a short distance below the falls.

There is a \$5.00 per vehicle entrance fee at Great Falls Park. Individual passes are \$3.00 and apply to visitors entering the park on foot, horseback, bicycle, and motorcycle. All passes are also valid on the Maryland side of the falls at the C&O Canal National Historical Park as well as any other National Park for a specified period, depending on the type of pass purchased. For more information on fees and annual passes, visit the [NPS Fees](#) page.

Times of Operation

The park is open from 7:00 a.m. until dark every day, except December 25. The Visitor Center is open from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. daily, with extended hours during the spring and summer

months. [Contact](#) the park for Visitor Center hours.

Great Falls Park Links

- [Great Falls Park NPS Website](#)
- [Great Falls Park NPS In-Depth Website](#)
- [NPS Fees](#)
- [Recreation Activities](#)
- [Trail Maps](#)

[Return to Tours and Tickets](#)